

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

JUL 2 7 2007

Established by the Treaty of June 9, 1855

Environmental Cleanup Offica

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June 25, 2007

Sean Sheldrake U.S. EPA Region 10 Attn: ECL-110 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, WA 98101

Re: Status of GASCO/Siltronic Removal Action Administrative Order on Consent

Dear Sean:

In March 2007, EPA distributed a review draft of the Statement of Work (SOW) for a removal action at the GASCO/Siltronic sites in Portland Harbor. Yakama Nation supports EPA's decision to conduct another early action at the GASCO/Siltronic sites and submitted comments on the draft SOW on April 23, 2007. This letter is a request for an update on the execution of the Administrative Order on Consent for the GASCO/Siltronic Removal Action.

The first early action at the GASCO site removed over 15,000 cubic yards of tar and contaminated sediment from the river. Post-removal action Investigations and monitoring at the GASCO site show high concentrations of site contaminants in the pilot cap porewater indicating that the cap may not be performing as intended. In addition, EPA observed non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPL) along the shoreline edge during the first removal action area. It is currently unknown if NAPL is present further into the river sediment. It is also unknown, due to lack of sufficient data, if the large area of NAPL in the upland portion of the GASCO site is impacting the river.

A second early action to remove principal threat material in the intertidal area and submerged lands on and adjacent to the GASCO/Siltronic sites, one of the most contaminated areas within the Portland Harbor Superfund site, is needed to protect human health and the environment in advance of the Record of Decision (ROD) and the subsequent remedial actions. Furthermore, the implementation of the second early action will necessitate implementation of upland source control actions which will prevent recontamination of the removal action areas and future migration of contaminants to the river. Conducting a second early action at these sites also supports the objective of sequencing cleanup work throughout the Portland Harbor site so that the most contaminated sites are addressed first.

The Yakama Nation believes that expediting the cleanup at the most contaminated sites along the Willamette River is a critical step in protecting human health and the environment prior to issuance of the ROD for the Portland Harbor Superfund site. For planning, budgeting and resource allocation purposes please provide an update on the schedule for execution of the

Administrative Order on Consent. If you have any questions please call me at 509-865-5121 x6365.

Sincerely,

Rose Longoria

Superfund Projects Manager

Yakama Nation DNR Fisheries Program

cc: Deb Zamamoto, EPA

Paul Ward, Yakama Nation